

MEMOR OF LORDS. Monday, March 22

on that account; it was very well known that the cause provoking it was very different. But, even granting that it were so, was a war denounced by all who formed the glory of that epoch as wicked, which marred the reputation of the Minister and depressed his character, to be cited as an authority on international law and public proceedings? Was the Minister of that day, in conjunction with the reigning Sovereign, to be regarded as the heir, *virtute officii*, of the influence and the wisdom of Grotius and Vattel? Of the independence of the South American Republics, we acknowledge, and doubt, but tardy. But, if the Congress did not entirely express the judgment of the country, for it was reprobated by the brilliant and enlightened Opposition of which the noble lord, now the Secretary of State, was at that time no inconsiderable ornament. Any one, not grossly ignorant of the difficulties which at that time hampered our foreign policy, must admit that there never was an occasion when acknowledgment had been decided less in accordance with principle or the dictates of public law, and more entirely swayed by views of prudence. There was no occasion for expressing other and tallying in nearly every point with the question now under consideration. In 1641, the independence of Portugal was acknowledged by France, Great Britain, Sweden, and Holland, within twelve months after the Duke and Duchess of Braganza renounced their allegiance to Spain, notwithstanding that a quarter of a century elapsed before Spain herself consented to join in the recognition. At that time Prussia had not yet come into existence, Russia had not begun to mingle in European affairs, Austria was leagueed with Spain by ties of kindred and of policy, so that the four recognizing Powers might be said to have been the only belligerents. The decisive battle between the celebrated Schomberg and Don of Austria was fought in 1665, but it was not till 1668 that the belligerents negotiated. He had examined all the great writers on international law to discover whether there had been anything in the circumstances of the recognition of Portugal of which they either expressed disapproval, or which would be reprobated by the principles laid down in their works. He had these authorities with him, but he did not inflict them on their lordships. But he might refer to the authority of Sir J. J. Mackintosh, who in the year 1829 introduced the bill for the recognition, acknowledging the South American Republics, alluded with satisfaction to the instance of Portugal as strengthening the principle for which he was then contending. Sir James Mackintosh, their lordships would remember, was the disciple, the successor, and the equal of those great writers who moulded public law into a science. The only thing required by Europe at that time to justify recognition was that there should be no hazard of conquest. It was not correct to say that according to the law of nations hostilities must have ceased, and the last shedding must have been spent, and the last drop of blood dried, before recognition could take place. What indeed, could be more cruel than this unnecessarily to prolong hostilities? The examples of the civil wars between Switzerland and Austria, Spain and Holland, Spain and Portugal, Great Britain and her North American colonies, and Spain and her South American colonies, all showed that you were entitled to acknowledge insurgents when it seemed to you that no hazard of their reconquest any longer existed. It might be asked, could you recognise a country while hostile armies were encamped upon its territory? If you could not, neutral Powers would be compelled to withdraw their Ministers from any country which became the theatre of war, or of which the boundaries are unsettled. We, in fact, had to have withdrawn our Minister from Spain, in 1822; but no one had ever contended for such a construction of international law. He now came to the question, "Is the issue of this contest any longer doubtful?" In discussing this part of the subject, he must first refer to the extraordinary circumstance that within the last few days the Confederacy had contracted in London, Amsterdam, and Paris a loan which now stood at the top of the market. That loan was used for the security of cotton, and, as it was well known, because of a rumor that that security would perish if the invasion of Mexico, the position of the loan must be regarded as an expression of the judgment of the financial world that the issue of the contest is no longer doubtful. What were the views of military men? In November last the Emperor of the French intimated to the Government of Washington his opinion that the reconquest of the Southern States was impossible; in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* for the month of October there was an article, supposed to be inspired by the committee of the House of Orleans who accompanied General McClellan to the field, adopting a similar view, and, as our information went, we did not know that any Northern general was of opinion that reconquest was attainable. And supposing that in the abstract such a reconquest was possible, the question for neutral Powers was, could it be attained by Mr. Lincoln and his colleagues? Because, as they had not in their armies any man who, like the Duke of Wellington, was capable of controlling and directing a Ministry, by them must it be accomplished, if it was to be accomplished at all. What proof of capacity had this aggressive Government given to the world? Was it to be found in the policy of its wars, in the superseding and replacing of commanders, or in their firm adherence to a principle, and its opposition to slavery? At first they wanted their steady disposition to maintain that institution; then the slaves in the lower States were to be free; then emancipation was to be extended to all States which resisted the Federal authority; then a bankrupt Treasury would buy the slaves at an outlay equal to the public debt of our country; and at last a servile war was indispensable. Were these the means by which the broken fragments of the Union could be welded, or 8,000,000 freemen be reduced to submission? And yet from him to join in the encomiums on the Southern President to which heat or generosity had led; but to much might be hazarded of that extraordinary man—that, amply gifted by nature, he had made the union of political and military excellence his object, and, in a position of unusual danger, had displayed qualities seldom united in the same individual. It should be borne in mind that a new chapter would be opened in the World's history if on the great theatre of war in America, the qualities to which men had ever pointed with admiration should triumph over those which had hitherto been always regarded with admiration. It became an interesting question for consideration, therefore, whether the Government of Mr. Lincoln could conquer its opponents when all confidence in it had ceased to exist, and when it pursued an enterprise in its capacity to bring which to a successful issue no one had the slightest faith. What better sign, he would say, of the state of despair and despondency

the enlistment of negro regiments? After that and the other evidence which was open to them noble lords, neither of side of the House would, he hoped, refuse to concur with the noble earl the leader of the Opposition, with the capitalists of Europe, and with military men generally, in the opinion that the hazard of conquest in America remained no longer matter of doubt. At that moment, he might say, throughout the world, Great Britain had consuls at the Southern ports; among others, at Mobile and Charleston. Their presence there was necessary to protection of British interests; and the question was coming on for debate in the Southern Confederacy how far consuls would be permitted to reside in Southern ports who had taken their *esqueuator* from the Government of Washington. What, then, he would ask, would be the position of this country if, in a few months, she should be compelled by interests and convenience to adopt the course which self-interest and justice long ago demanded at her hands. The first ground, then, on which the noble lord might rest, unless he put his acknowledgment what that, unless she meant to withdraw her consuls, honour called upon her to proceed in the course which he advocated. The next ground on which she should rely was that of humanity. His noble friend the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in his despatch in reply to Mr. Mason in the autumn, had justly stated that the question which was so much debated on both sides of the Atlantic—the question of the right to secede—could not be determined by foreign Governments; but the inference which his noble friend had drawn from that proposition was that we ought not to acknowledge the insurgents. In that inference he hoped their lordships would not be dissatisfied, for, he thought, they did not say they would then, in reality, be pronouncing it to be their opinion that the insurgents had no right to secede; while, on the other hand, by acceding to the appeal for recognition, they would be giving no positive decision on the point in dispute. The new Government of France had, he might further observe, been acknowledged in 1846, but by doing so no opinion as to its title had been pronounced. It could not be denied—and Mr. Davis in his recent Message conspicuously explained—that the Confederacy had suffered wrongs, perhaps unintentional and undesigned, from Great Britain. The Government of the Emperor was deterred from doing so, which might have been done by the influence of this country. We had forced the Confederates to burn their prizes on the water, and had done away with the chance of their raising privateers. What was even more serious still, after engaging with the Confederacy by our negotiator to maintain the principles laid down in the Treaty of Paris upon public law, we had not, as regarded the question of blockade, adhered to those principles. Our partiality towards the Northern States had received an illustration from the despatch of the noble lord dated the 27th of March, 1862, and which the Government of Washington gave to the world. In that despatch, while warmly resisting the extortionate demands of Mr. Adams to the noble lord, as a kind of set-off to his austerities, he reminded him that allowances had been made to the United States in the arduous war in which they were engaged, and that the public law had been liberally interpreted in their favour. He had no wish to review the policy of his noble friend. Let it be granted that the noble lord was then right in making every allowance to the Government of Washington and in liberally interpreting the law of nations in favour of the stronger of two belligerents. Still, the inference which he drew was this,—that it now rendered necessary some reparation in the shape of a recognition of the Southern States. In his opinion, neutrality, so far from being a bar, was a ground of claim to recognition. A further element in the consideration of the question was the security of Canada. It was said by some that whenever the war closed, and in whatever way it closed, Canada would be invaded. If the Northern arms succeeded, Canada would be endangered by a drunkenness of victory, and if they failed it would be assailed through the bitterness of anguish. The security of Canada consisted in the danger of attacking it, and it would be far more dangerous for the Northern States to make that attack if they had in their rear a country which was friendly to England. Canada might be safe as long as this great civil war raged, but we had not the power to prevent the close of the war. Other powers would recognise the Confederacy, and the power would be restored. From the moment that separation became inevitable, it was obvious that we required an ally on the other side of the Atlantic. If the war exhausted itself before we acknowledged the Confederacy we might be in the humiliating position of finding both belligerents finally estranged, and having to defend Canada against the one and the West Indies against the other. As we appeared to him, the most convincing reason why the country was bound by duty to acknowledge the Southern States. He would not dwell upon the general abstract obligation upon neutrals to acknowledge no insurgent Power when the hazards of the contest were exhausted. But in this case there were special circumstances which ought not to be overlooked. The first was the Lancashire distress (so long endured and within the last two days meeting with a more strenuous expression)—a distress which was not likely to be remedied while the large stock of cotton in America prevented the investment of money to obtain a supply from other parts of the world. The Government of Washington, above all others, considering the pledge it had given, and the debts it had incurred, must find an enormous difficulty in negotiating with the South. As well might we expect a man to perform an amputation on his own person as to ask the North to give up their claims on the South. If the statesmen of Washington before ordering the advance across the Potomac had been able to foresee the disgrace and the sacrifices which they were about to bring on their countrymen, they would certainly have accepted a bloodless peace when it was offered to them. There could be little doubt that the obligations of neutrality, of honour, and good faith would have induced the people of this country to recognise the South long ago had it not been for certain delusions on the subject of negro slavery, which had recently been promulgated. The true cause, however, which the people had really any call to take into their consideration was that which would be most conducive to the welfare of the negro—separation or reconquest? It could easily be shown that reconquest would not be favourable to the noble cause with which had so long been associated the names of such men as Wilberforce and Buxton—whose descendants now seemed to connect themselves with the machine which had been set up for prolonging the war on one side of the water, by spreading fictions and calumnies on the other. In the event of separation, no bondage must be confined within the limits of

the judgment of the Southern men—atherto too often inflamed to passion by the violence of the North—would be calmly applied to discover a solution for the question. In the event of reconquest—a servile war, with wide-spread murder and rapine, must be the inevitable consequence. What security has America, if she trades to which the United States flag had too often been lent, would not be renewed? It had always been, impossible for any British Government to obtain the right of searching suspected American vessels; but when this war began it was immediately conceded, but he had heard it rumoured that when the war was over it would be at once retracted. The only other sentiment which could stand in the way of recognition was a vague belief that the cause of freedom would be promoted by restoration of the ancient state of things. But the reconquest of the South would take a Cæsar or a Napoleon, and it could not be expected that a man of such a character with the army at his back flushed with success would be so easily beaten off by the lawless power which he would overthrow. Few men could resist the temptation to take possession of the whole Government. At the time of General McClellan's dismissal it was said that he could easily have led his legions to Washington and declared himself Dictator, and many censured him for not taking that course. Whether the Government would adopt the principle of recognition, or still hesitate as to taking so decided a course, he should not be the less indebted to their lordships for enabling him to show that the neutral Powers had an indisputable title to acknowledge Southern independence, and that until they exercised that title the war in America would never end. (Hear, hear.)

Earl Russell : My Lords, I suppose there is no member of either House of Parliament who has not witnessed the operation of the civil war in America. (Hear, hear.) It disturbs commerce, it interferes with the peace of the world, and it afflicts America herself (hear, hear); and if anything could be usefully, and, I must add, justly done to bring that war to a termination, I repeat there is no member of either House of Parliament, there is no person in the country, who would not gladly see such a consummation. (Hear, hear.) But, after having listened to my noble friend, I must confess I remain in the same persuasion as before, at the present moment—and I speak only of the present moment—that there is nothing this country could do usefully and wisely which would tend to the termination of the contest on the other side of the Atlantic. (Hear, hear.) My noble friend has somewhat mixed different topics, and he has alluded to three different modes of intervention in the affairs of other countries. One, which is the *minimum* of interference, that of advice, good offices, and mediation; another, the mode proposed by my noble friend, that of recognition; and the third, one which we have sometimes resorted to, and which other nations have more frequently had recourse to—that of forcible intervention. My noble friend says, and says truly, that since I had the honour of addressing the House last summer there has been some divergence between the views of the Government of this country and that of the Emperor of the French. The Government of the Emperor of the French conceived that it might tend to the termination of the war if the three Powers—France, Great Britain, and Russia—were to propose a suspension of arms with a view of negotiation between the two belligerents. Her Majesty's Government, after carefully examining that proposition, came to the conclusion that its adoption by us would not be likely to lead to its acceptance by the Government of the United States of America; while, by causing irritation, it would not increase but diminish the chances of our seeing a termination of the contest. The French Government has proceeded in accordance with its views, and has actually proposed to the Government of the United States to negotiate with the Southern States. That proposition has not been adopted; and I think your lordships will judge from what has happened with reference to the proposals of France, and with reference to suggestions thrown out in other countries, that any interference on the part of this country would only have tended to aggravate the evils of the present lamentable state of affairs in America. (Hear, hear.) It does not appear at the present moment that this contest would be likely to be terminated by an offer of our good offices. I say at the present moment, because it is impossible to say that, if the course of events, a time may not come when the contending parties would be desirous of the good offices and wise counsels of friendly Powers. I do not at present see the probability of that at this moment; but I wish to guard myself against being supposed to speak positively of the future. (Hear, hear.) We come, then, to the course proposed by my noble friend—namely, that of recognition. My noble friend alluded to several cases—not very happy illustrations of his argument, I think—in which the United States of America have recognised insurgent countries which they believed likely to be able to maintain their independence. One was the revolted state of Georgia, whose independence had sunk like the island of Rhodes in the Mediterranean. It had disappeared before the deluge of Russia. It was recognised by the United States recognised it. Another instance referred to by my noble friend seems to come within the category, though it has been quoted by a gentleman who has written some very able letters under the title of "Historicus."—I mean the recognition of the United States themselves by France two years after the war with this country had begun. If anyone will examine that precedent, and the important documents which have lately come to light, he will see that the French monarchy of the day had, most unfortunately for itself, been exciting democratic passions in America, and had been endeavouring to raise opposition there to the Government of Great Britain. It had prepared means of concert with those States; and even in the letter, so common in appearance, but so exceedingly hostile and bitter in its spirit, written by the French Ambassador, he has stated that the French Government had not only made a treaty of commerce with the United States, but further, that they had a right to carry that treaty into effect, if necessary, even by force. This was a threat to take part in the war between Great Britain and her revolted colonies. But we know that besides this open threat there was a secret treaty signed, by which France lent her support to the revolted provinces, and the opposition of this country, which was then as decided as ever, to opposition was, agreed that the threat was one of bluff, and that by way only could it be met. This was not a case of recognition but a case of interference. It was, I think, a most unjustifiable interference. It was interference for the purpose of spreading the democratic principles, which afterwards reacted on France and produced so many excesses and crimes during the revolution. (Hear, hear.) Well, then, with regard to the other cases, to which

There is hardly more than one case in which the question was limited to a simple recognition—that was the war carried on between Spain and her revolted colonies, which was on from 1808 to 1825 or 1823 without any proper recognition. This case is one worthy of the attention of your lordships, because it was illustrated by the mild wisdom of Lord Lansdowne, by the profound research of Sir James Mackintosh, and by the dazzling genius of Canning. We have, therefore, upon this question of recognition as much light as can possibly be thrown upon any subject. Now I beg to refer your lordships to the words of Lord Lansdowne. He was zealous for the recognition of the South American Provinces, he thought it would be a great advantage to this country to recognise them, and he was entirely free from any trammels of office or any obligation to consult the interests of the Ministry of the day. But with that wisdom and forbearance, which characterised every act of his public life (hear, hear), he stated that the first thing to be considered was the right, and he went on thus:—"It will be my duty this night to point out to your lordships the great advantages which may result from the establishment of South American independence. I hope I shall never stand up in this House to recommend your lordships to adopt any course of policy inconsistent with those principles of right which are paramount to all expediency, and which compose that great law of nations, any departure from which, to answer a selfish and ambitious policy, never fails to recoil upon its authors." (Hear, hear.) These are words upon which this House may well consider upon what grounds Lord Lansdowne founded the views which I have just brought under the notice of your lordships. In the first place, he stated it was necessary that a country which required to be recognised should have established its independence. In the next place, that it should be able to maintain that independence for the future; and, lastly, that it should be able to carry on with all foreign nations those relations of peace and amity which form the general international law of the world. Now, examine the state of the revolted provinces of Spain at that time, as Sir James Mackintosh and as Mr. Canning did. We find that the greater part of South America had become a slave or a possession, entirely free from the presence of Spanish armies. We find that with regard to those provinces in which that was not absolutely the case—namely, Mexico, where Vera Cruz alone was occupied by a Spanish garrison, and Peru, where there were 4000 or 5000 Spanish troops, although the cause of Spain seemed hopeless—it was agreed that their recognition should be deferred, and that only in the case of Buenos Ayres and those parts of South America which had clearly and for a number of years established their independence would it be right for Great Britain to proceed to the step of recognition. Besides this, Mr. Canning took care to inform the Spanish Minister that such recognition would not be very long delayed, that if the Spanish Government wished to recognise them they ought to do that step, and that Great Britain was willing to give time before proceeding to recognise them herself. (Hear, hear.) Well, here is a great precedent for our consideration—here is a step taken by the Government of the day after considerable care and examination; here is a course recommended by the Opposition of the day, not in any harsh spirit, but notwithstanding the conviction which this country generally entertained that the cause of Spain was hopeless, and that the independence of those provinces was firmly established. (Hear, hear.) Well, now, if we look to the present position of North America, and compare it with that of the States of which Lord Lansdowne spoke, we find that the war in North America is still carried on with almost vigour—I had almost said with the utmost fury. We find some of those provinces which were the first to proclaim their independence—a great part of Louisiana, New Orleans, and the banks of the Mississippi, occupied by the Federal armies. There are very considerable Federal armies menacing cities of the Confederation, such as Charleston and Savannah. So that no man can say it is a case of hopeless war. For my own part, and speaking according to my limited vision, I do not believe those efforts of the Federals will be successful. But no man can say that the war is finally over, or that the independence of the Southern States is established. (Hear, hear.) Well, then, what is the present state of the case? Although the Federal Republic seems unwilling to accept the decision of events. So far from it, we find the last acts of the Congress which just expired are to place, by conscription, every man fit to carry arms at the disposal of the President of the United States, and to vote sums of money amounting to no less than £180,000,000 sterling for the purpose of carrying on the war. Well, then, in this state of affairs I should say that, looking to the question of right, it would not be a friendly act towards the United States, it would not be to fulfil our obligations to a country with which we have long maintained relations of peace and amity—a great country which says it can still carry on the war, if it will, I say, be a failure of friendship on our part. If at this moment we were to interpose and recognise the Southern States, I have endeavoured to guard myself by saying that I speak now with reference to the present aspect of affairs. I hardly know the moment in which my noble friend could have brought forward his motion with less encouragement from events. It may turn out that these immense efforts which are being made shall be made in vain; that the spirit of the South is unconquerable as their determination never to be united again with the Northern States is final and irrevocable, and that a time may come when the duty of this country will be totally different from what it is at the present moment. All I maintain is, that it is our duty at present to stand still and not to proceed to an act so definite, so positive—an act so unfriendly to the South—(Hear, hear.) My noble friend spoke of various topics—of dangers of Canada being attacked by the Northern Republic and the Western Indies being attacked by the Southern. My lords, I cannot follow my noble friend into these suppositions. I do not venture to say what may be the future course of events. I confine myself to that which I think to be my duty now (hear, hear), which I think is right, and if that be so we must be content in future days to meet with future dangers, and it will not enfeeble our arms if we have it in our power to reflect that we have never failed in our obligations to those who have been great States in peace and amity with us, and that it has not been through the fault of ours that a great affliction has fallen on them. (Cheers.) A great affliction I know, and I know that your noble lords, I know, and I know that your noble

into this question, but at the same time there were reports of the great speech in which he referred to further occasions and former instances of interference on our part, as if my noble friend and some of those who looked forward to his motion to-night expected that there should be some interference on our part in this war. Now, I wish to say only a few words upon that which we have done in former days by way of intervention. We, too, like other States, have at times taken upon us to intervene. We interfered in the case of Holland to save her from the religious tyranny and political despotism of Philip II. That contest was hallowed by the blood of Sir Philip Sydney, and by the part we took contributed to her independence. In another case—the case of Portugal—we interfered. Charles I., Cromwell, Charles II., all agreed that the interference was made by their own selves; and to send 10,000 men to the aid of the new Government of Portugal, and we helped the Portuguese to relieve themselves from the Spanish tyranny under which they groaned, and to establish the independence of their State. In more recent times, when Greece endeavoured to establish her independence, we aided her in her contest with Turkey; we rescued her from the destruction which threatened her, and helped her to found a free and independent monarchy. Take the case of Belgium again. When the Belgians declared that they were unable to remain under the Government of Holland, in accordance with the Treaty of Vienna, we interfered by force, in conjunction with France, and the wise and happy arrangement was made by which the freedom of Belgium was secured. Now, my lords, in all these instances, whether the intervention was carried on by our ancestors or in our own times, there is nothing of which an Englishman need be ashamed. (Hear, hear.) If we have taken part in interventions, it has been in behalf of the independence, freedom, and welfare of a great portion of mankind. I should be sorry, indeed, if there should be any intervention on the part of this country which could bear another character. (Cheers.) I trust that this will not be the case, and that no interests, deeply as they may affect us—in interests which imply the wellbeing of a great portion of our people, but interests which may affect also the freedom and happiness of other parts of the globe—will induce us to sever ourselves from the different nations that are our ancestors, but that when we are bound to interfere it will be an interference in the cause of liberty and to promote the freedom of mankind, as we have hitherto done in such cases. (Hear.) It is with this conviction that I have addressed these few remarks as to what has been done by this country in former days, and I trust that with regard to this Civil War in America we may be able to continue our impartial and neutral course. Depend upon it, my lords, that if that war is to cease, it is far better it should cease by a conviction, both on the part of the North and the South, that they can never live again happily as one community and one republic, and that the termination of hostilities can never be brought about by the advice, the mediation, or the interference of any European Power. (Cheers.)

I have spoken only of the duty of the Government at the present time, and I trust that there will now be no further debate on this subject. (Loud cheers.)

After a few words from Lord Stratford the subject dropped.

QUEEN'S EPITAPH.—The following epitaph is in the churchyard of the parish of Gresham, in Norfolk. It is rather quaint. Being sexton we rather think he wrote it himself a short time before his death for his tombstone :—

"I am interred in this place;
By the grave-digger's hand,
I take my spade to my berth:
One weary journey 'twixt
Deadly rest and life I've made.
Written on a tombstone in a village churchyard near
Berkley, Gloucestershire :—
A foolish dreamer's vain desire;
And here he lies,
Rueing that he did not die;
But nobody cares;
His clock was most exact;
His clock went true;
First saw his body lie;
Then saw him rise;
His God and his soul;
Was the least of his thoughts,
For he feared the grave;
Was his aim and his oak."
On the tombstone of John Mann, in Sedgfield churchyard :—

"An honest man is the noblest work of God." As a specimen of the beautiful, we give the following from the same cemetery, inscribed over the grave of a young person :—

"This lovely bud, so young and fair,
Shall bloom by eth'ry doom,
Just come, and how sweet a flower
In Paradise could bloom."

GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF WINTER IN THE OLDEN TIME.—The millinery and dress-making trade, about three hundred years ago, will be new to thousands of our readers. It was written by a good old Scotch Bishop, named Gavin Douglas, and first reprinted in 1796, by the poet, Walter Scott, to whom we are indebted for the following literary modern version :—"The fern withered on the miry willows; the brown moors assumed a barren mossy hue; the cattle looked hoary from the dank weather; the wind made shivering red swaver on the dyke. From the crags and the forehead of the yellow rock hung grass icicles in length like a spear. The soil was dusky and grey, bereft of flowers, herbs, and grass; in every arched bough, the leaves of winter lay; the birds were scarce. Borras blew his bugle-horn so loud that the solitary deer withdrew to the dale; the small birds flocked to the thick briars, shunning the tempestuous blast; the raven croaked and notes to chirping; the catamount roared, and even the eagle, bowed down, bowed to the sounding wind. The poor labourer, wet and weary, draggled in the fen; the sheep and shepherds lurked under the hanging banks of wild brooks. With generous cheer, I stole to my bed and lay refreshed to sleep, when I saw the moon ahead through the window her twinkling glances and wintry light; I heard the howling hind, the night owl shrieking horribly, with cold and bitter blast; I saw the hawk head the wild geese, with screaming cries, fly o'er the city through the silent night. I was soon lulled to sleep, till the cock crowed and thrice the sun shined; then I arose, and saw the moon disappear, and heard the jackdaws cackle on the roof of the house. The cranes, prognosticating the year, in a firm phalanx greeted the air, with voices shrill and strong. A rose-tree, perched in an old tree, fast by my chamber, cried loudly its sign of the dawning day. I rose, and half opening my window, perceived the morning lull, wan, and hoary; the ground overwhelmed with vapour and cloud; the ground side rising and round; the heavy rain pouring down the sides of the hills looking black and hard with the driving blast; the dew drops congealed on the stubble and rim of trees; and sharp halcyons, dead and dead, were seen."

A FLOATING HOTEL.—The Dictator, a steamboat now building at New York, to ply between that city and Albany next summer, will contain 300 seats abreast. She will be the largest river steamer yet constructed.

ROUND AND SQUARE.—A butcher prescribes the round tumbler for the tenth time to a rich skin-flick. "It settles," says the latter, "that this is a pretty round bit!" "Yes," replies the doctor, "but you must drink enough to make it appear so." "I've sent six rounds since I got it squared."

AN LITTLE WATER.—"Paddy, where do the water go?" asked the dean, the minister, and the parson. "Oh, master, I just drinking and washin' my face, and washin' the glass I'm washin' my face with."

YESTERLY NIGHT.—"There was a cold in the air, and a cold in the West (American) States, says that the population of the United States is increasing rapidly, and are about to reach the number of 80 millions."

QUEEN EPITAPHS.—The following epitaph is in the churchyard of the parish of Gresham, in Norfolk. It is rather quaint. Being sexton we rather think he composed it himself a short time before his death for his tombstone :—

" I am interred in this place ;

My trade I leave you for to guess,
Take my spade take my berth :
I once wrought journey' work
Twenty-four years for death."

Written on a tombstone in a village churchyard near
Babylon, Connecticut.

"Anthony Willsher's dead ;
And here he lies,
Some may laugh ;
But nobody cries.
His clothes was moth-eaten ;
His gold was rust ;
But now his body
Lies in the dust.
His God and his soul
Was the least of his thoughts,
For the idols he worshipp'd

On the tombstone of John Mann, in Sedgfield churchyard:—

As a specimen of the beautiful, we give the following from the same cemetery, inscribed over the grave of a young person :—

"This lovely bud, so young and fair,
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Just come to show how sweet a flower
In Paradise could bloom."

GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF WINTER IN THE OLDEN

TIME.—The following description of winter, written about three hundred years ago, will be new to thousands of our readers. It was written by a good old Scotch Bishop, named Gavin Douglas, and first re-

to whom we are indebted for the following beautiful modern version:—"The fern withered on the miry willows; the brown moors assumed a barren mossy hue; the cattle looked heavy from the dark misty

the wind made the reed waver on the dyke. From the crags and the foreheads of the yellow rock hung great icicles in length like a spear. The soil was dusky and grey, bereft of flowers, herbs, and grass: in every hole

and forest the woods were stripped of their array. Boreas blew his bugle-horn so loud that the solitary deer withdrew to the dale; the small birds flocked to the thick briars, shunning the tempestuous blast.

and changing their loud notes to chirping; the cats
racts roared, and every linden tree whistled and
bowed to the sounding wind. The poor labourers
wet and weary, dragged in the fun; the sheep and

shepherdess lurked under the hanging banks of wild
broom. Warm from the chimney side, and refreshed
with generous cheer, I stole to my bed and lay down
to sleep, when I saw the moon shed through the
window her twinkling gleams and winter light.

heard the hornet bird, the night owl shrieking
horribly, with crooked bill, from her cavern;
heard the wild geese, with screaming cries, fly
over the city through the silent night. I was

new lulled to sleep, till the cock crowed thrice, and the day peeped. I waked, and saw the moon disappear, and heard the jackdaws cackle on the roof of the house. The cranes, prognosticating tem-

posts, in a firm phalanx pierced the air, with voices sounding like a trumpet. The kite, perched in an old tree, fast by my chamber, cried lamentably—a sign of the dawning day. I rose, and, half opening my win-

the air overwhelmed with vapour and cloud; the ground stiff, grey, and rough; the branches rustling; the sides of the hills looking black and hard with the driving blast: the dew drops congealed on the

A FLOATING HOTEL.—The Dictator, a steamboat now building at New York, to ply between that city

ROUND AND SQUARE.—A butcher presented a

"Yes," replied the butcher; "I've sent it round as soon as I could, and it's covered now."

AN IRISH WAY!—"Paddy, what's the matter?" I gave you to clean the windows with?" "Oh, master, I just drank it; and I thought 'T' I breathed on the glass it would be better."

VERY LIKELY.—A lady, who edits a newspaper in one of the Western (American) States, says that "the popularity of American is due to the fact that people are always expecting something will say something this

Not Charles Lane—a honest life-lane, having observed, for the first time, the brilliant comet of 1933, ran in with breathless haste to the house, calling on

her fellow servants to "Come out, and see a new star that has na got its tail cuttit aff yet."

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(From the Times' Correspondent.)

SPECIAL NOTICE
TO BE SOLD,
THIS DAY,
AT
ARDEN AND EDMONDSON'S,
86, King-street,
RICH FRENCH SILKS,
Yard wide, 1s. 11½d.
Other lots of rich and fashionable SILKS, at extraordinary prices.
TO BE SOLD,
THIS DAY,
Also,
Variety of rich fashionable
SHAWLS
At extraordinary prices.
display at VICTORIA HOUSE
TO BE SOLD,
THIS DAY,
Also,
DRESS MATERIALS, FRENCH TWILLS,
WINEYS, SKIRTINGS,
At extraordinary prices.
Special notice is particularly drawn to these lots, as they
are all new and fashionable goods, to be sold as marked
above, at
Extraordinary Prices.
TO BE SOLD,
THIS DAY,
Also,
BLANKETS
SHEETINGS
GLOVES
QUILTS
LADIES' UNDERCLOTHING,
At extraordinary prices.
From the Invaluable Stock of
W. SHEPHERD,
ARDEN AND EDMONDSON,
Ladies' Establishment,
86, King-street.
S HAWLS.—FARMER and PAINTER'S grand
display at VICTORIA HOUSE
M ANTLES.—FARMER and PAINTER'S grand
display at VICTORIA HOUSE
S ILKS.—FARMER and PAINTER'S grand display, at
VICTORIA HOUSE
M ILLINERY.—FARMER and PAINTER'S grand
display at VICTORIA HOUSE
G OLD CORDS, Gold Braids.—JOHN C. YEO and
CO., 27½, Pitt-street.
B ALL DRESSES, from 5s 6d each. JOHN C. YEO
and CO., 27½, Pitt-street.
S HAWLS, in all the newest styles, exceedingly cheap.
JOHN C. YEO and CO., 27½, Pitt-street.
C HEAP MANTLES and PALEOTTS, in immense
variety. JOHN C. YEO and CO., 27½, Pitt-street.
T HE LEVER.—Gentlemen's dress gloves 2s. 6d. and
4s. 6d. per pair. LEWIS (sale Pillet), 10, Hunter-st.
T HE LEVER.—Gentlemen's dress ties, in all widths,
black, figured ones. LEWIS, 10, Hunter-st.
T HE LEVER.—Gentlemen's dress shirts and handker-
chiefs. LEWIS 97, Hunter-street.
T HE LEVER.—Gentlemen's dress boots (French).
LEWIS, 10, Hunter-street.
B ARGAINS in the BEST GLOVES.—
Josephine, elegantly spotted, 1s 6d, regular price 3s 6d
Levin's, ditto ditto, 2s 6d, ditto 4s 6d
Victoria's, ditto ditto, 3s 6d, ditto 4s 6d.
LEWIS (sale Pillet), French Glove Depot, 10, Hunter-
street.
O N S L S.
Knights, English.—Union Jacks
Ditto, American.—Blue Peters
Ditto, American.—Numerals
Bunting—various, blue, white, and green.
MITCHELL and CO., Lower George-street, and Circular
Quay.
I F you want a good MATTRESS, go to Australian
Bedding Manufactory, 7, Bridge-street, Sydney.
I F you want a cheap MATTRESS, go to the Australian
Bedding Manufactory, 7, Bridge-street, Sydney.
I F you want a good PALLIASSER, go to the Australian
Bedding Manufactory, 7, Bridge-street, Sydney.
I F you want your MATTRESS re-made go to the Aus-
tralian Bedding Manufactory, Bridge-street Sydney.
S OFT CHAIRS re-stuffed, at the Australian
Bedding Manufactory, 7, Bridge-street.
G EORGE A. LLOYD and CO., have ON SALE—
California flour, in 50 lb. bags, Golden Gate and
other brands
Adelaide flour, in 100 lb. bags
Kent hops and Belgian hops, 1861
Branley, in cases
Lorward's old stout
Ind Coopers' ale, in bulk and bottle
Morris, Cox, and Co.'s pale ale, in bulk
Morris, Cox, and Co.'s double stout, in bottle
Holloway's
Galvanized iron
Saw sheels
White lead
Fireworks, in small tins, well assorted
Toys, in cases
Offices' stores
Spray and tool steel
Salt
Port wine, in cases
Sherry, in cases
Sardines, in cases
Soda-water bottles
Soda-water
Lemonade
Tea
Tea ware
Seltzer water
Crocheryware
Toilettes, combs
Hd lead
Crucibles, various sizes
GEORGE A. LLOYD and CO., George-street, Sydney.
C ALIFORNIA FLOUR in 50 lb. bags, just landing
ex Guterado, from San Francisco.
The celebrated Golden Gate brand, unequalled in quality
by any other ever produced, can be obtained in any quantity
at the office of the undersigned.
GEORGE A. LLOYD and CO., Lloyd's Chambers,
George-street, Sydney.
F IREWORKS, FIREWORKS.—The undersigned
have on hand, a few tins of FIREWORKS, each
containing a complete assortment of all descriptions suitable
for families and private displays. GEORGE A. LLOYD
and CO., George-street, Sydney.
P ATENT SELF-HEATING SMOOTHING IRONS.
—This new invention is rapidly coming into general
use. No housekeeper should be without one. You can
iron any material, and it is obtained in any quantity
at the office of the undersigned.
GEORGE A. LLOYD and CO., Lloyd's Chambers,
George-street, Sydney.

gham, of Ohio. Awaiting the ap-
some more uncompromising lead-

ASHDOWN AND CO.'S CLEARING-OUT SALE.—Possession of the premises having to be given to the City of London, where the Public are invited to take advantage of the opportunity now presented of purchasing during the PRESENT MONTH OF MAY goods of every description which are being sold at under cost prices to save the expense of their removal. ASHDOWN and CO., wholesale and retail ironmongers, George and King streets, Spitalfields.

FINAL NOTICE.—ASHDOWN and CO., have taken a tender for the taking down their present premises and the erection on their site of new and spacious buildings, have arranged to give possession to the contractor by the first day of June next, and therefore, in view of avoiding the removal of goods, to DISPOSE of their STOCK; an opportunity in this offered to the trade generally, and to the public generally, of purchasing goods at unprecedentedly low prices. After which and during the erection of their new building, they will continue to keep on hand a small quantity of stock by Mr. Ingle's, and adjoining their stores in King-street.

George and King streets, Spitalfields.
ASHDOWN and CO., Ironmongers.

ASHDOWN and CO., in consequence to the pulling-down of their present building and erection of a new one and to avoid the removal of goods, are selling at greatly reduced prices—

Louisa-fair and Australian kitchen range
American ditto
Grates, all sizes and patterns
For stoves, back, hearths, and other lamps
Fenders, fire-guards, and fire-bricks
Tins, kettles, etc.
Baths and tubs, elegant
Cast vases, new patterns
Oval French and American tubs and buckets
Copper and brass ranges
Stoves, enamelled hollowware
Bridges, ladles and galls; brick, single and double
Moulds, for Portland, or Marble, or Cast-iron
Spouting materials, every description
Furnishing goods, all kinds
Pipes, cast-iron, and cast-lead made
Rings, weighing machines, scales, steelyards, &c.
Richmond and Chandler's chest-nuts
Bedsteads, and Chamber beds, smooth bare
Trunks, Adams' and Colt's revolvers
Whitworth and Kerr's rams
Screwdrivers, screw-wrenches
Nails, Whitworth, and Kerr's ammunition
Kerr's ammunition, all kinds
Cartridges, caps, and shot
Shells, fuzes, and shells
Shot foundry, a select assortment
Blindages and Dixon's goods, well worth attention.

George and King streets, SPITALFIELDS and CO.

Sydney, 2nd April.

SHED and FINED DOTS—a prime sample for SALE BY BROWN and SON, Market Ward.

IRON WATER TANKS, or Ferds, containing 60 gallons each, on SALE. Apply to WILLIAM HENRY, & CO., 160, New Street.

SEAL BATHING.—During Spring—SITS from 9 o'clock till noon every day. SALES FORBIDDEN.

tragedies which have marked the past two or three

SYDNEY MAIL.
ADVERTISEMENTS received by
 Gordon and Gotch, successors to B. Ford, news agents,
 Hunter-street.

W. B. Lee, lawyer, George-street.
 T. Palmer (late T. Lusty), Brickfield-hill.
 F. Jarne, Constitution Hotel, Upper Scotch Head Road.
 Mrs. Victoria Young and Stanley, Woolloomooloo.
 Jos. Hunt, Steam Ferry, Darling.
 F. Dwyer, opposite station, Paddington.
 J. Langley, grocer, Balmain.
 Charles Kibbey, stationer, Newtown.
 G. R. Addison, George-street.
 J. A. Schuler, Commercial Library, Parmenter-street.

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Eight lines	Three shillings.
Ten lines	Four shillings.

And 3d. (three pence) per line for every additional line less
 2s. to advertiser's account, if booked.

NOTE.—Advertisers in the country can remit payment by
 post-office stamps.

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